Integrated Defence Acquisition Council

328. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to go in for an integrated Defence Acquisition Council for military procurement;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when the council will actually start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Defence Acquisition Council is headed by the Raksha Mantri. Other members of the Defence Acquisition Council are Raksha Rajya Mantri, the three Service Chiefs, Defence Secretary, Secretary, Defence Production & Supplies, Secretary, Defence Research & Development, Secretary Defence (Finance), Chief of Integrated Defence Staff of Chairman, COSC(CISC) and Special Secretary (Acquisition).

(c) The Defence Acquisition Council has already become functional.

Lifting ban on authorised agents of foreign armament companies

329. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foreign armament companies had been banned to have authorised agents in India;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Government is planning to lift this ban; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the details of the regulatory mechanism for such type of companies and their agents?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A Comprehensive formulation of the role, if any, which Authorised Representatives/Agents employed